

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 31, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We respectfully request that you provide not less than \$630.4 million for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) in your Budget for FY 2007, equal to the final FY 2006 appropriations for CSBG.

As you know, the CSBG supplies the core funding for more than 1,100 grantees, primarily Community Action Agencies (CAAs), nationwide. These agencies provide many important services and initiatives that help low-income families and individuals become self-sufficient.

CSBG provides flexible dollars to local agencies to deliver community-designed responses to their unique needs and causes of poverty. Funding is targeted to the poorest of the poor: those living at or below the poverty line. Resources are not only devoted to providing these individuals with the tools to achieve self-sufficiency and economic independence, but to strengthening low-income communities to create and expand local opportunities.

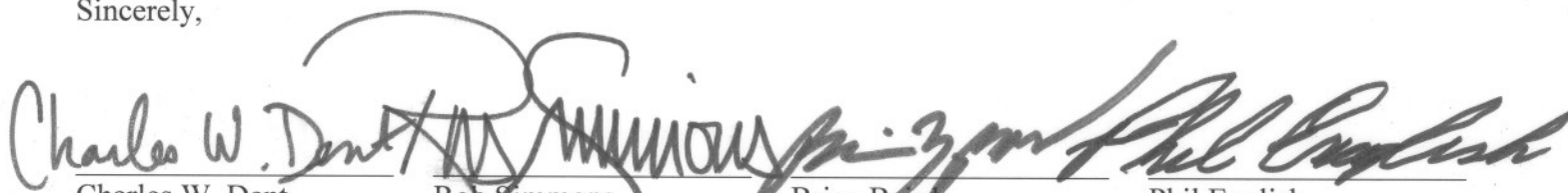
In FY 2004, CSBG enabled CAAs to leverage over \$9 billion in other Federal, State, local and private resources to develop and provide a coordinated array of services to combat poverty. Each CSBG dollar leverages nearly \$5 in state, local and private funds. With this cost-effective investment, CAAs are able to serve over 15 million individuals in almost 6 million families.

Yet the demand for CSBG services has never been greater. Unemployed parents have turned to CAAs for help in meeting basic needs and in making a fresh start. More and more families of Reservists called to extended duty serving our country are also receiving help from CAAs to make ends meet. Families who are transitioning off or have already left the TANF program turn to programs leveraged with CSBG dollars to gain the skills and the resources to become truly self-sufficient. Families facing skyrocketing home energy costs are turning to CAAs not only for LIHEAP and other energy assistance, but also to get help meeting other basic needs in the face of these costs, including food, housing, and prescription and other health care payments.

It is clear that America's families need the services provided by CAAs through the CSBG. We ask that you maintain the commitment to this important program by including level-funding in your FY 2007 Budget Request.

Thank you for your leadership and your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

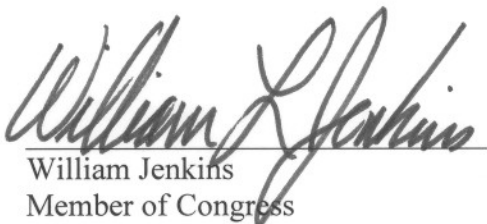

Charles W. Dent Rob Simmons Brian Baird Phil English
Member of Congress Member of Congress Member of Congress Member of Congress



Diane Watson
Member of Congress



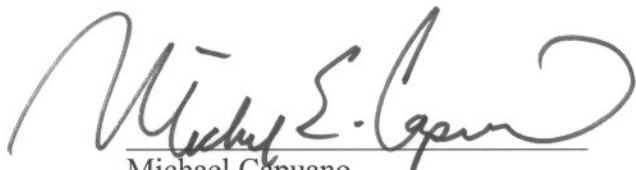
Sherrod Brown
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William Jenkins
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Ben Chandler
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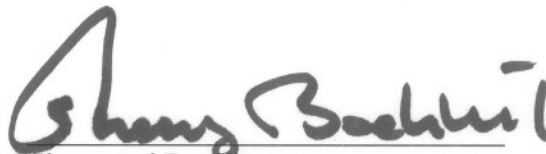
Michael Capuano
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John Lewis
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Ted Strickland
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Sherwood Boehlert
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Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress



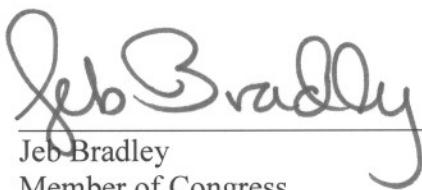
Ed Whitfield
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Solomon Ortiz
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Todd Russell Platts
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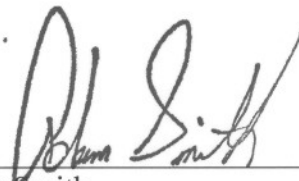
Jeb Bradley
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Michael Michaud
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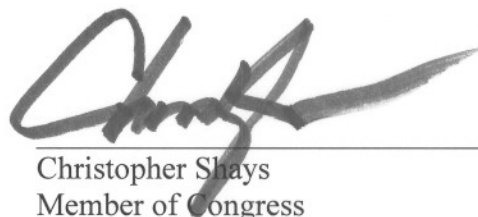
Bob Ney
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Adam Smith
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Jay Inslee
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Christopher Shays
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Bernie Sanders
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Nancy Johnson
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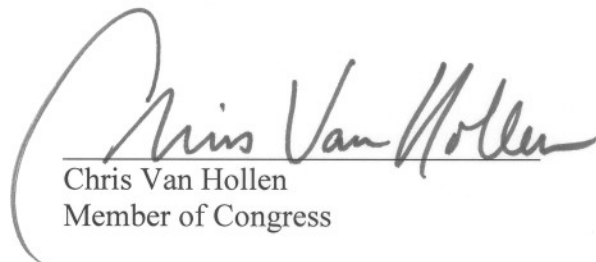
Marty Meehan
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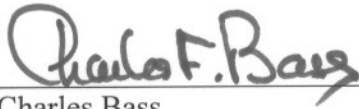
Michael G. Fitzpatrick
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Benjamin Cardin
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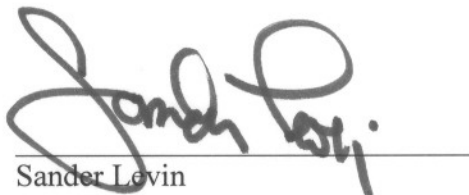
John W. Olver
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Peter DeFazio
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Sander Levin
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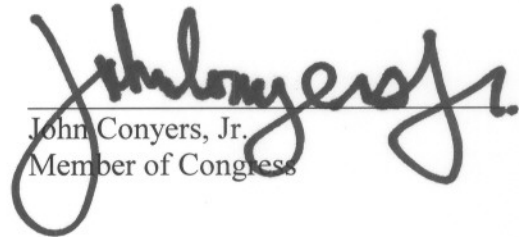
Thomas Allen
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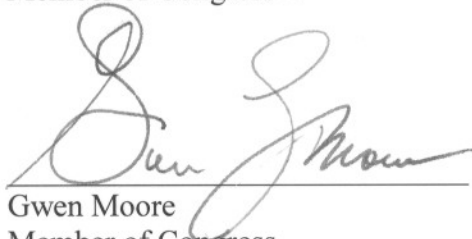
Diana DeGette
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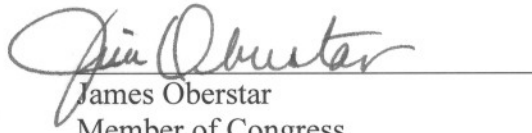
John Conyers, Jr.
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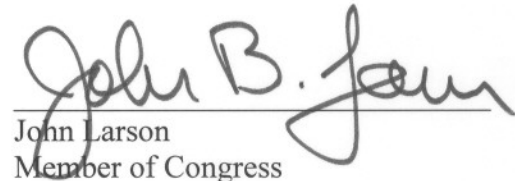
Gwen Moore
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Ron Kind
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Lloyd Doggett
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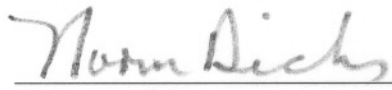


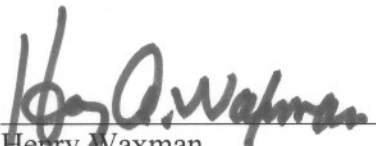
Doris Matsui
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John Boozman
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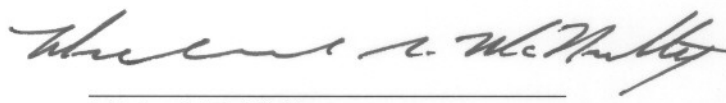

Raúl M. Grijalva
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Norman Dicks
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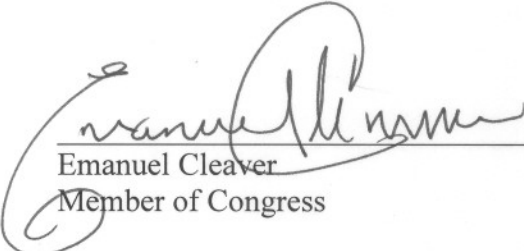

Henry Waxman
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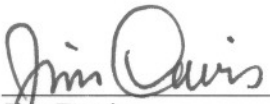

Jim Marshall
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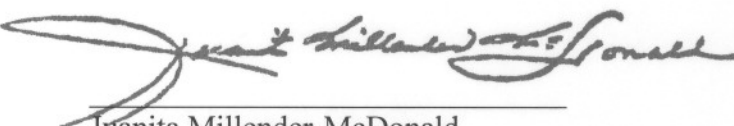

David Price
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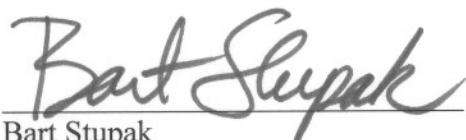

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Ed Case
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Emanuel Cleaver
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Jim Davis
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Bart Stupak
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Dennis Moore
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Ellen Tauscher
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Stephanie Herseth
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Jim Gerlach
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Dale Kildee
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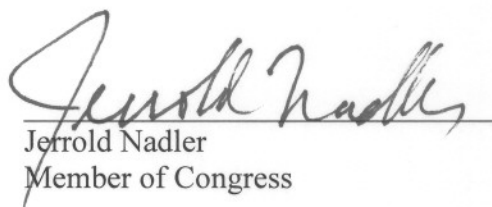
Brian Higgins
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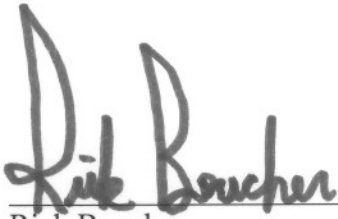
Ike Skelton
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Steve Israel
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Jerrold Nadler
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Rick Boucher
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Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



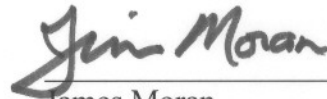
Barbara Lee
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Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress



Lane Evans
Member of Congress



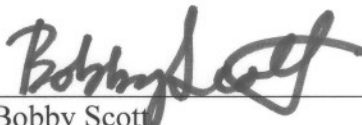
James Moran
Member of Congress



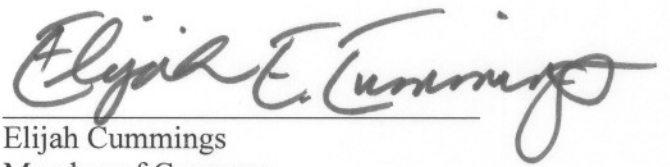
Earl Pomeroy
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Earl Blumenauer
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Bobby Scott
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Elijah Cummings
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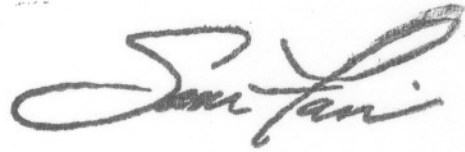
Rush Holt
Member of Congress



Tom Udall
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Patrick Kennedy
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Sam Farr
Member of Congress



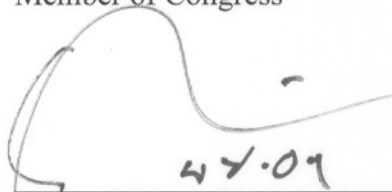
Frank Pallone
Member of Congress



James Langevin
Member of Congress



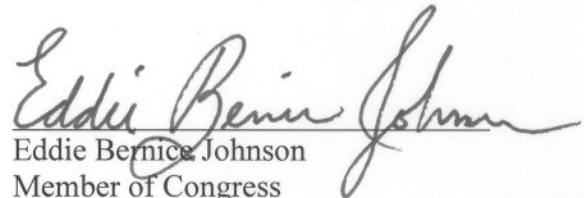
Lynn Woolsey
Member of Congress



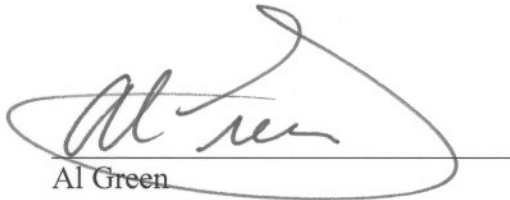
Anthony Weiner
Member of Congress



Richard Neal
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



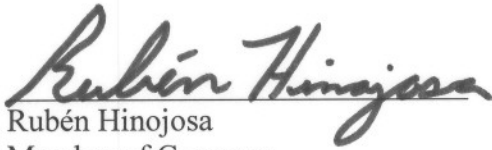
Steven Rothman
Member of Congress



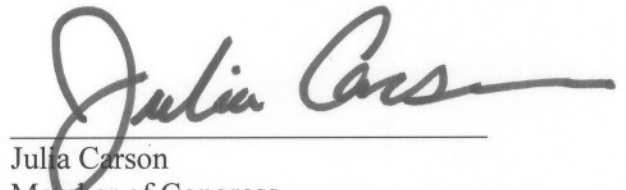
Tom Osborne
Member of Congress



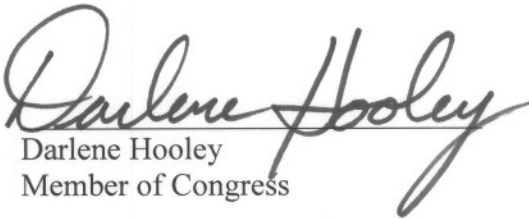
Neil Abercrombie
Member of Congress



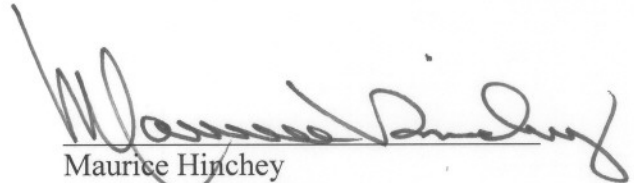
Rubén Hinojosa
Member of Congress



Julia Carson
Member of Congress



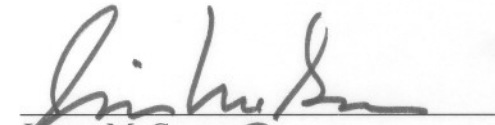
Darlene Hooley
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Maurice Hinchey
Member of Congress



Don Sherwood
Member of Congress



James McGovern
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Collin Peterson
Member of Congress



William Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



Curt Weldon
Member of Congress



Dennis Cardoza
Member of Congress




William Delahunt
Member of Congress

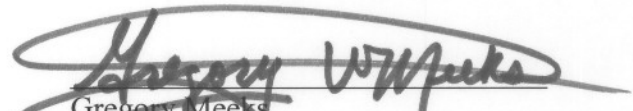

Jim McDermott
Member of Congress

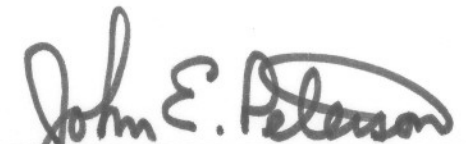

Mike McIntyre
Member of Congress

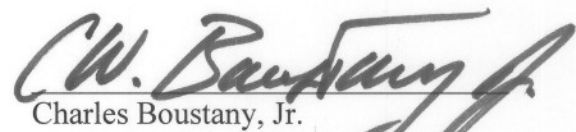

Nick J. Rahall
Member of Congress


Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

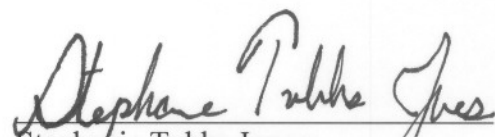

Brad Miller
Member of Congress

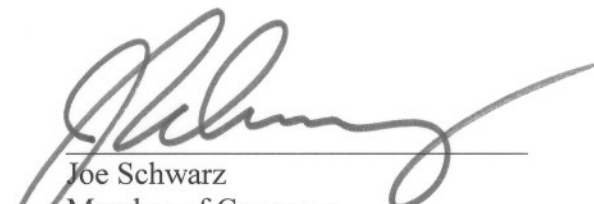

Gregory Weeks
Member of Congress

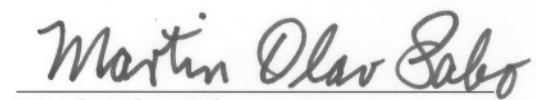

John Peterson
Member of Congress

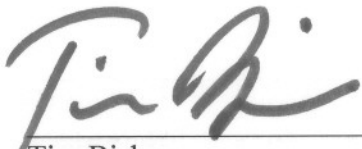

Charles Boustany, Jr.
Member of Congress


Janice Schakowsky
Member of Congress

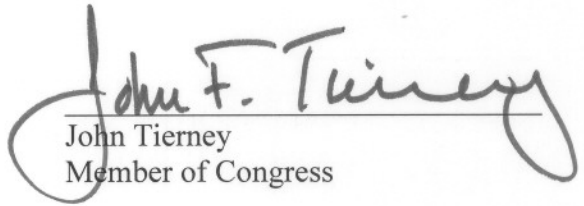

Stephanie Tubbs Jones
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Joe Schwarz
Member of Congress


Martin Olav Sabo
Member of Congress



Tim Bishop
Member of Congress



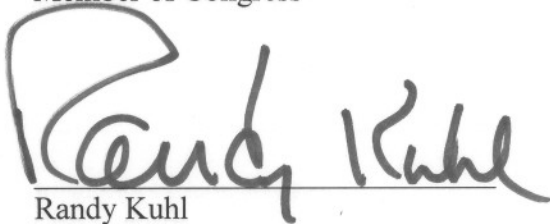
John Tierney
Member of Congress



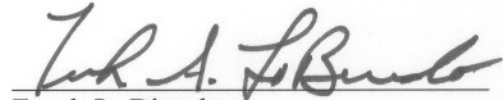
Bill Shuster
Member of Congress



Dan Boren
Member of Congress



Randy Kuhl
Member of Congress



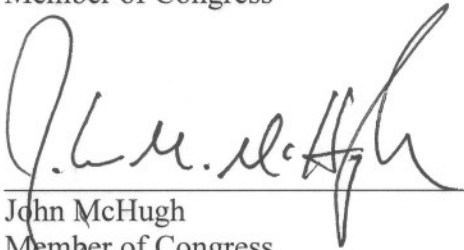
Frank LoBiondo
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James Walsh
Member of Congress



Barney Frank
Member of Congress




John McHugh
Member of Congress



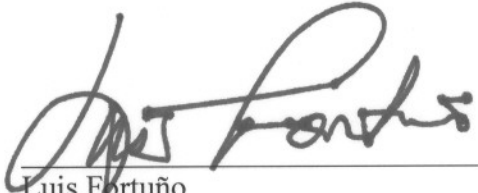
C.A. Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress



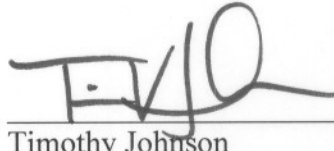
John Shimkus
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Jon Porter
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Luis Fortuño
Resident Commissioner



Timothy Johnson
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



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